

## Message Text

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ACTION NEA-01

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PA-01 INR-01 INRE-00 SSO-00 /004 W

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O P 291253Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

TO USINFO WASHDC IMMEDIATE

USIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6064

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

UNCLAS DAMASCUS 0513

USIAC

USIA FOR INA; IOP/M

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS:

SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION: U.S. VETO OF SC MIDEAST RESOLUTION

1. SUMMARY: FOR SECOND DAY LEVEL OF INVECTIVE HAS RISEN IN SYRIAN MEDIA ATTACKS ON U.S. VETO. GENERAL THEMES: VETO PROVES THERE NO ESSENTIAL CHANGE IN U.S. HOSTILITY TOWARD ARAB CAUSE; VETO HARMS CHANCES FOR PEACE; VETO CONFIRMS U.S. STANDS ALONE IN INTERNATIONAL OPINION ON MEDEASE ISSUE. END SUMMARY.

2. GOVERNMENT ORGAN AL-BAATH HEADLINED: "AMERICAN VETO THWARTED CHANCE FOR PEACE." SUB-HEAD: "SYRIA INFORMS U.S., BRITAIN, ITALY AND SWEDEN OF ITS DISPLEASURE." PARTY ORGAN AL-THAWRA'S HEADLINE: "INTERNATIONAL UNANIMITY IN CONDEMNING AMERICAN VETO." SUB-HEAD: "MINISTER OF INFORMATION: SYRIA CONDEMNS THE AMERICAN VETO AND RECONFIRMS ITS UNITED STRUGGLE UNCLASSIFIED

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WITH THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE."

3. OPINION COLUMNS IN AL-BAATH AND AL-THAWRA CONTINUE  
HEAVY ATTACKS ON U.S.S.C. ACTION. BAATH'S AMID KHOULI  
CONTENDS: "DESPITE ALL THE OPTIMISTIC ANALYSES OF A  
NEW AMERICAN ATTITUDE TOWARD THE ARAB CAUSE FOLLOWING  
THE OCTOBER WAR...WE ARE CONFIDENT WHAT WAS CALLED  
A"NEW CHANGE" WAS ONLY A POLITICAL MANEUVER NECESSITATED  
BY CIRCUMSTANCES CREATED BY THE WAR." HE DESCRIBED  
THE VETO AS "AN IMPERIALISTS VETO, A WEPON USED AGAINST  
EVERY LIBERATION MOVEMENT, AGAINST EVERY JUST REVOLUTIONARY  
CAUSE." KHOULI CONCLUDES: "CERTAINLY THE ARAB NATION  
IS CAPABLE OF GREATLY HARMING THE U.S. POLITICALLY AND  
ECONOMICALLY. ARE WE DOINT IT?" THAWRA'S YUNIS  
HAYDAR STRIKES SIMILAR KEY IN OPINION COLUMN HEADED:  
"ONE VOICE AGAINST THE WORLDK" HAYDAR DESCRIBES  
U.S. VETO AS "DICTATORSHIP OF THE MINORITY" AND  
SAYS, "AMERICAN VETO, IN FINAL ANALYSIS, REMAINS  
AN ENCOURAGEMENT TO ISRAEL TO PERSIST IN ITS REJECTION  
OF PALESTINIAN RIGHTS, ITS CHALLENGE TO INTERNATIONAL  
PUBLIC OPINION, ITS OCCUPATION OF ARAB LANDS."  
MOHAMMAD ZUAITAR, ALSO IN THAWRA, PLAYS SIMILAR  
THEME, CITING UN SECGEN WALDHEIM'S STATEMENT FOLLOWING  
VOTE, WHICH ZUAITAR DESCRIBES AS "AN INDIRECT CRITICISM  
OF THE AMERICAN VETO USED IN THE SECURITY COUNCIL  
AND OF ISRAELI POLICY, WHICH REFUSES TO SEE THE  
PALESTINIAN REALITY."  
KEITH

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